

From: [D. Muirhead](#)
To: [Angie Garcia](#); [Michelle Wilson](#)
Subject: May 29 Council Budget Workshop comments
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2015 10:49:54 AM

Dear Morgan Hill City Council,

I have several comments, large and small, on the proposed budget for our City which you will discuss at the May 29 Budget Workshop.

I am most hopeful about the full-time Senior Services Supervisor to oversee senior programs and services.

I am happiest with new part-time support so that the Parks and Recreation Commission and Library, Culture, and Arts Commission can return to regular monthly meetings and be broadcast live.

I am pleased that you have found Grazing to be a highly cost effective method of vegetation control.

A goal under the Community Development Fund is the potential for new medical facilities being developed as identified in the medical services study. Notably missing from the discussion is the sale of the hospital in Gilroy.

You repeat that it is important for the community to understand that the City is not in the financial position to address its aging public infrastructure (streets, facilities, parks). The Council and City Manager need to acknowledge that aging infrastructure imposes costs on our residents, most notably tire and alignment damage due to poor streets, as well as increased risk of personal injury and damage to other property.

For the City Attorney FY 15-16 WORKPLAN under Community Services:

Evaluate opportunities for the City to work collaboratively on risk management issues with private property owners.

You have never done a presentation on this.

You have a General Liability FY 15-16 ACTIVITY GOALS of continuing to work with the ABAG PLAN Risk Control Consultant to implement best practices and procedures for risk management that will meet or exceed the minimum risk management program threshold ABAG PLAN has set for member cities.

You have never done a presentation on this.

For the Human Resources COUNCIL GOAL of Enhance Community Engagement:

Continue to include leaders of community organizations or external subject matter experts as raters in recruitment selection processes.

This has appeared in previous years. You have never identified these organizations and experts, either to credit their contribution or to let our residents know whom you have chosen to speak for us.

For the Utility Billing FY 14-15 HIGHLIGHTS and FY 15-16 ACTIVITY GOALS,

I have not found any information on how to take advantage of

Implement real time data upload to customer accounts for web access.

Continue to promote the new WaterSmart data accessibility features.

I looked in my bill, at the on-line billing site, and the web page for water conservation.

There are several activities, such as participating in the South County Youth Task Force, that are funded by grants. You have a table of Grant Revenue (page 355). The Youth Task Force is funded by a grant from the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP). You also mentioned not getting renewal of the Domestic Violence grant. And Mayor Gage at his Budget Coffee mentioned a grant which would end in two years (Youth or Gang Task Force, I don't remember which) and whose costs would then be born by the City General Fund. So I would like to see additional information about grants (one-time, renewal period, finite lifetime, etc.).

Seeing the Environmental Programs Coordinator under Personnel Detail by Program reminded me that some City activities are mandated by other agencies. Do you have an estimate of costs and/or staff time that is allocated to these external demands? We also fund our part of regional activities, such as the \$70K for congestion management.

Your chart of Personnel Total FTE (page 104) shows a
High 202.75 FY08-09; Low 168.85 FY11-12; Target 186.5 FY15-16
Are you still under-staffed? Is your goal to return to the FY08-09 level?

For the Facility Services Council Goal of Enhancing Community Engagement:
Continue to provide a community board/table for sharing community information as well as managing use of the CCC digital display board. The community board/table is quite useful if you are at the CCC. Why not one in the Council Chambers lobby? And because I remain in love with the idea of Department infomercials based on the budget book, you have dead time on the many screens in the Council Chambers. Run an infomercial.

For Cable Services, under the Council Focus Area of Measure the effectiveness of community engagement efforts, I remain curious as to the reach of Channel 17. When Charter switched to all-digital and forced us to get set-top boxes, they gained the ability to poll the box for the channel selection. Can you use your Franchise Agreement to get that viewing data for Channels 17 and 19?

In Street Maintenance FINANCIAL COMMENTS you mention that the last biennial street condition analysis was completed in March 2014. CalTrans has been collecting PCI data using vehicles that measure surface characteristics including roughness, cracking and faulting for two years. The advantages are objectivity and repeatability, time (collecting at traffic speeds), and safety (personnel are not exposed on roadway).

For Fire FY14-15 HIGHLIGHTS raise your hand if you know what a "Type VI fire apparatus" is.

For Fire FY 15-16 WORKPLAN

Mapping (ongoing) - Update and share data with other departments.
Take advantage of technology to increase information available in mapping programs

The County has a project to better use GIS data which involves multiple departments, lead by County Planning. Other agencies contract with the County for GIS services: LAFCO, HCA. VTA also has a GIS project in their proposed budget. Perhaps some synergy there for us?

For Fire, there is no mention of SVRIA radio equipment. For Police,

it is mentioned multiple times. Police and Fire are mentioned together in other parts of the document when discussing SVRIA.

You want to improve Police Organizational Effectiveness by purchasing seven WorkFit height adjustable work stations to allow the Police Department's Records Team to sit or stand while working at their desk. I would want to know that there are not better choices which would provide fitness equipment to be used by more Department members. The Police Special Operations FY 15-16 ACTIVITY GOALS includes continuing physical fitness program for detectives. There is no similar goal in Police Field Operations.

The Police Field Operations FY 15-16 ACTIVITY GOALS includes deploying Automated License Plate Reader during each shift. There is no mention here or in Public Works about using the traffic profiles collected by the unit as input to traffic engineering.

For Police Dispatch Services, I wanted to mention that County Communications, in preparing to receive video 911 calls in the future, are planning additional training for their dispatchers to deal with the emotional impact of video.

Under Information Services ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS is mention of the Information Services Information Technology Strategic Plan (ITSP). It has never been presented to the Council or the public and is not available on the web. I believe in having master plans and strategic plans, but you then need to reference them. When you approved a new IT position in December 2014 for a Programmer Analyst, you did not mention the ITSP. And I do not recall, but am not going to spend time double-checking, any mention of the ITSP in the various equipment bid proposals in the past year. [I made similar comments in May 2012]

You want to Participate in Regional Issues by paying for Morgan Hill's portion of the Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Authority (SVRIA) regional communication equipment for fire and police services. When I attended the SVRIA Working Committee in March, they mentioned that the cost of the full-service personal radio was \$7K and the emergency cache radio was \$2K. That seems like a lot of money for a ruggedized case and some transistors, especially if we eventually go beyond fire and police to include public works and neighborhood disaster caches.

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You either have acronym definitions in the Glossary of Budget & Financial Terms (page 52-58) or define them at first use. The one exception is page 120 where SVEDA, CREW, ICSC, ULI are used but not defined until page 123.

typo page 141 external subject matter expects[experts?] as raters

typo page 185 [missing bullet/text?] pilot-level intensive energy analysis

typo page 228 Replace user end[end user?] radio equipment

typo page 216 Predictive Policing software for intelligent[intelligence?]-led

typo page 302 cooperation with the Community[Communications?] and Engagement
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Since one of your Focus Areas is to measure the effectiveness of community engagement efforts, what are your metrics for the statement that the new

Council Chamber has significantly improved the meeting experience? I see more chairs in the room and you can fingerprint on the displayed images.

For the Community Services Department Council Goal of Preserving and Cultivating Public Trust, I would like to see the instructions for creating staff reports for bid/contract agenda items. There is wide variation in the detail about the advertising, grading, and awarding of contracts. And the no-fault termination clause is used to dismiss or replace firms with no explanation to the firm or our residents. This is particularly irritating because the previous award always says staff performed due diligence and the firm was well qualified.

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I see significant omissions in your policy
City Council's 2015 Priorities, Goals, and Strategies
Enhancing Community Engagement and Diversity
Foster an inclusive community environment that encourages broad based participation in public decision making, community building, and programs.

While the Police Department has many activities for
GOAL 2 INCREASE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Neighborhood Watch, Officer Adopt-a-School, Police Explorer, 911-4-kids they have not been open to including the community in defining policies for collecting data in public areas (license plate readers) or how body-worn camera recordings are to be used.

For license plate readers, I do not know if there is a written policy.
A jurisdiction in the East Bay had a very public discussion which resulted in the Police Department agreeing to purge data after three months. The County Sheriff at a recent FGOC stated the APLR data is not a public record subject to release under California Open Record Act.

For body-worn cameras, I do not know if there is a written policy.
The department has this to say about their use:
GOAL 4 INCREASE PROFICIENCY OF STAFF
Mandatory use of VieVu (personally worn) cameras by all patrol staff, resulting in 1,498 hours of recordings.
VieVu cameras have reduced liability and increased offender accountability.
The adequacy of San Jose's policy has recently been in the news.
The California Assembly Public Safety Committee on Law Enforcement held an Informational Hearing on March 3 (02h 36m)
Use of Body Cameras: Policies and Pitfalls

Where is the broad based participation in public decision making?
Or even a public presentation on current policies?

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Thank you for your consideration,
Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill